

SENATE BILL 590

C3

2lr1261

By: **Senators Stone, DeGrange, Dyson, Glassman, and Peters**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2012

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – Abortion Coverage – Prohibition**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a health benefit plan certified by the Maryland Health
4 Benefit Exchange as a qualified health plan from providing coverage for an
5 abortion; establishing a certain exception; and generally relating to qualified
6 health plans offered through the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Insurance
9 Section 31–102(a) and 31–109(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2011 Replacement Volume)

12 BY adding to
13 Article – Insurance
14 Section 31–109(h)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2011 Replacement Volume)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Insurance**

20 31–102.

21 (a) There is a Maryland Health Benefit Exchange.

22 31–109.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) The Exchange shall certify health benefit plans as qualified health plans.

2 (H) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS
3 SUBSECTION, A QUALIFIED HEALTH PLAN MAY NOT PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR AN
4 ABORTION.

5 (2) A QUALIFIED HEALTH PLAN MAY PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR AN
6 ABORTION IF:

7 (I) THE ABORTION IS NECESSARY TO SAVE THE LIFE OF THE
8 MOTHER; OR

9 (II) THE PREGNANCY IS THE RESULT OF RAPE OR INCEST.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 October 1, 2012.